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Herr Bismarck was no April fool if

he did come into the world on April 1.

If silver should go on advancing until

its dollar value should nearly equal

that of gold in the ratio of 10 to 1, the

cheap-money advocates would be dis-

gusted.

It is not a bad omen that the leading

Republican papers in Chicago urge

Republican voters to defeat a half dozen

Republican candidates for the Council

because they are hoodlums.

Col. S. G. McLendon, an old-time

Democrat in Georgia, says there must

be two parties in that State because

there are two opinions regarding the

tariff and the money question, and that

hereafter men like himself will stand up

and vote with the North when it is

hoped that the Georgian is a prophet.

Never did a man in private life re-

ceive so general and so genuine an ova-

tion from a people as did Prince Bis-

marck yesterday. All Germany seemed

to pay homage to the greatest statesman

because he conceived and carried out

the plan of fusing the German states

into the German nation.

Less than a year ago Senator Voor-

hes predicted that the price of wool,

three months after the passage of the

Democratic tariff bill, would be higher

than it was under the McKinley law.

At this time the price continues a third

less. As the Senator is likely to do his

usual amount of predicting this season

his attention is called to the fact that

he has not the gift of prophecy.

Chicago and St. Louis have municipal

elections to-day, and to-morrow the

annual State election in Rhode Island will

be held. The Democrats carried the

State in 1889, 1890, 1891 and 1893, but in

presidential years the Republicans have

carried it. In 1889 the Democratic plu-

rality was 4,419, but in 1894 the Repub-

lican lead was 6,907. There has been no

interest in the canvass this year.

In appointing the eighteen members

of the several boards of control for the

benevolent institutions all at one time,

as he proposes to do, Governor Mat-

thews is evidently animated by the de-

termined determination to have all the

"kicking" done at once, instead of hav-

ing it distributed over a long period,

as it would be under a series of appoint-

ments. He has not been in office this

long without having learned that the

filling of so many places involves a

deal of dissatisfaction among the other

fellows.

A correspondent in a recent letter

asks if labor has advanced in this

country since the coming of silver coin-

age to free. The writer is an intelligent

man, but he has devoted his energies

to acquiring misinformation regarding

the money question to the exclusion of

accurate information. Have wages ad-

vanced since 1873? Yes, both in this

country and Germany. In this country

the advance was steady until the elec-

tion of 1892. In the exhaustive inves-

tigation made by the Bureau of

Labor at Washington for the Sen-

ate committee in 1892, it

appears that the average amount of

wages 100 in 1870, they gradually ad-

vanced to 160 on a simple average, and

to 168 on an average based upon the

importance of the employment. The

average in 1873, according to the im-

portance of the employment, was 147.4.

That is, in 1892 there was an increase

of 21.2 cents.

The Soldiers' Orphan's Home at

Knightstown has nearly one hundred

applications for admission which cannot

be granted. At the same time there are

unofficial reports to the effect that chil-

dren are admitted who are not orphans

and whose surviving parent and rela-

tives can care for them if they make

the same efforts as thousands of par-

ents are compelled to make to support

and rear their children at home. The

Journal is not prepared to say whether

these reports are false or true, but they

are so frequently heard that there is

warrant for calling attention to them.

The law designed the institution as an

orphan's home, not a home for children

with one parent or even with no par-

ents who should be cared for by rela-

tives. The fact that the home affords

better opportunities and an easier life

for children than parents or friends

can provide is no reason for thrusting

them upon the State for maintenance

and education. Furthermore, it is much

better for the children in after life to

be brought up in private families, where

they must work for a living in part,

than to be maintained in comparative

idleness by public charity, and then, at

certain ages, be turned into the world

to care for themselves. The reports

show that but a limited number com-

pared with the whole are taught useful

occupations. But the point is: Are there

any considerable number of children

admitted from time to time who are

not really orphans and whose relatives

are able to care for them?

THE DRIFT CITYWARD.

An article in the Forum for April

calls attention to the fact that while

the four States of Ohio, Indiana, Illi-

nois and Iowa, representing the richest

and best-watered region of the United

States, and surpassing, area for area,

any other part of the Union in general

productiveness, scarcely held their own

in rural and village population during

the decade which ended with 1890. Of

the 994 townships in Indiana, 498 gained

population between 1880 and 1890, 482

lost and sixteen held their own, and yet

the increase of population in the whole

State was 214,000, or 10.8 per cent. In

Illinois 800 townships lost and 579 gained

inhabitants. In Ohio the preponderance

of the townships losing population is

about the same as in Indiana. In Iowa

893 townships gained and 691 lost popu-

lation during the decade. In Indiana

the townships losing population are scat-

tered through the northern, southeast-

ern and central portions of the State.

To several causes can this loss of

population be attributed. A decrease in

the value of farm lands is not one

of them. The States named, because, dur-

ing the decade, the value of real prop-

erty increased \$119,000,000 in this State,

\$253,000,000 in Illinois, \$290,000,000 in Iowa

and \$1,940,000,000 in the North Central

States. The main cause of the falling

off of farm population is found in the

introduction of labor-saving machinery.

Improvements reducing the demand for

human efforts on the farms have ex-

ceeded the inventions in all other de-

partments of production. There is

scarcely any part of farm work which

has not been facilitated by inventions

the past ten or fifteen years. The popu-

lation thus displaced must go to the

cities.

Even more striking is the loss of popu-

lation in what are called the villages.

While producing millions' worth of

goods in 1890 in excess of 1880, there

was a decided falling off in the number of

plants. The same fact appears in compar-

ing the statistics of 1870 with 1890. Thou-

sands more men and women were em-

ployed in the industries of Indiana in

1890 than in 1880, but the increase has

been in the larger cities. This is be-

cause what is known as the factory

system has come with its large plants,

its costly machinery, its demand for

labor and its vastly increased capacity to

turn out goods. The carriage manu-

facturer who employed twenty hands in

scores of villages is no more. The ma-

chinery, the organized production and

the cheaper goods of the large city es-

tablishment have driven these worthy

people out of the business. The plant

turning out a thousand carriages a year

can thrive on one-tenth of the profit of

those turning out but a hundred a year.

The same is true of grist mills and fur-

niture making. The extensive plants

have forced the smaller ones with lim-

ited machinery to the waste of their

places, having superior facilities, have

benefited, but the beautiful smaller

towns, of which there are hundreds in

Indiana, have lost population and busi-

ness by the factory system which com-

petition has built up. No man can

build a carriage now, but a hundred

men, with machinery, each doing a part,

can turn out a much better and a much

cheaper one.

TRUE BIMETALLISM.

Gen. Francis A. Walker, president of

the Massachusetts Institute of Technol-

ogy and the author of one of the most in-

structive works on money that has ever

been published in this country, is, be-

yond question, the best-informed and

one of the ablest of the advocates of

real bimetalism in the world. In a re-

cent address on this subject before the

Worcester, Mass., Board of Trade, Gen.

Walker considered some of the objec-

tions to bimetalism. In reply to the

off-peated assumption that the values

of the two metals vary so much from

time to time that a ratio for their coin-

age, in which the coins of equal face

value should be equal, is not possible, General Walker said:

To illustrate the closeness with which gold

and silver were held to the ratio, let me

say that in 1867 the mean annual rate at

which the two metals were exchanged, by

weight, was 15.57 ounces of silver to one

ounce of gold. In 1868 it was 15.58, in

1869 it was 15.59, in 1870 it was 15.60, in

1871, again, 15.59; in 1872 it was 15.60, in

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